

February 7, 1995

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FCC MAIL ROOM

The Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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IN THE MATTER OF CLOSED CAPTIONING AND VIDEO DESCRIPTION OF VIDEO PROGRAMMING (FCC 95-484)

I write in reference to the above as response to the FCC's Notice of Inquiry on Closed Captioning of Video Programming (FCC-95-484). As a late-deafened adult who is unable to understand the dialogue of most programs despite use of hearing aids or direct audio jack equipment to the TV, I am dependent on closed captions for most programs shown on TV. I watch weather programs (no captions) and would enjoy watching CNN News Programs (no captions). I feel that critical information is not available to me on most TV programs in my area.

In Ocean County, where I live, is a large number of senior citizens. This county is second only to Dade County, Florida in its number of retirees estimated at over 125,000. One in four people over the age of 60 has some form of hearing loss. This calculates to about 30,000 people in Ocean County. I assure you that we all are in need of closed captions.

I am the State Coordinator for the organization Self Help for Hard of Hearing, Inc. (SHHH) and serve on two state level advisory councils in the Department of Human Services.

land M. Strange

Sincerely yours,

Carol M. Granaldi, State Coordinator

SHHH New Jersey

cc/Adelphia Cable TV

FAX: 609-758-1261 FAX: 609-695-7193 Voice: 609-758-0675 EMAIL: CMGRANALDI@AOL.COM

No. of Copies rec'd\_ List ABCDE Your support of SHIIII. adds

your

voice to

an ever-

growing

number

of people

who

encourage

communication

access for

people with

hearing loss.

HEARING

LOSS:

YOU

CAN

DO

SOMETHING

**ABOUT** 

IT!



Sell Helpfor Hard of Hearing People, Inc.

Bethoods MD 20814 (301) no 2248 Voice (301) 6 > 2249 11 Y

# MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION Hearing Loss: Here's How You Can Do Something About It! . . .

I want to support SHHH! Please enroll me as a member of SHHH.

Individual

\$25 USA

\$35 Canada/Nexico

\$45 Overseas (Via Air Mail)

Enjoy the SHHH Journal, publication discounts, and other benefits offered exclusively to SHHH National members.

Couple

\$40 Canada/Mexico

\$50 Overseas Via Air Mail)

Receive one copy of the SHHH Journa for the household and membership benefits for each person.

Family

\$35 USA

\$45 Canada/Mexico

\$55 Overseas Via Air Mail)

Receive one copy of the SHHH Journal for the household and membership benefits for up to four people per household. Please include names of all family members and designate one name as the main recipient for the household.

Professional

\$35 USA

\$45 Canada/Mexico

\$55 Overseas Via Air Mail)

Receive all of the benefits of Individual Membership plus:

◆ Professional Membership Certificate

◆ List of Local Affiliates for Consumer Support Network

◆ Consumer Education Program . . und More!

Student

\$20 USA

\$25 Canada/Mexico

\$35 Overseas Via Air Mail)

Students must provide verification of their full-time status with a certification letter from their admissions office or a copy of their registration confirmation letter with payment for membership. Student Members receive all the benefits of Individual Membership.

Library

\$50 USA

\$65 Canada/Mexico

\$75 Overseas Via Air Mail)

Library Members are entitled to receive up to three copies of the SHHH Journal per issue Help make SHHH available to all in your community.

Non-Profit

\$50 USA

Organization

\$65 Canada/Mexico

\$75 Overseas (Via Air Mail)

Non-Profit Organization Members may also request up to three copies of the SHHH Journal per issue. Display one in your lobby, waiting area, and library. Keep current with the latest developments in education, coping strategies, and technology.

For-Profit Organization \$100 USA

\$135 Canada/ Mexico \$150 Overseas (Via Air Mail)

For-Profit Organizational Member may request up to four copies of the SHHH Journal per issue. Learn how to best meet the needs of your employees/clients with hearing loss and how to keep your organization accessible.

#### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please Print Clearly

Phone/TTY

Mr.	Mrs.	Ms.	Dr.	
Name				-
Organizatio	on Name			_
Address				-
City	S	tate	Zip	-

Please se Mr.	Mrs.	Ms.	Dr.
Name	=		
Organizati	on Name		
Address			
City	St	ate	Zip
Phone/TT	Υ		

# Gift Donor's Name

Contribu	tions:		
\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100
\$250	\$500	\$1000	Othe

(Contributions to SHHH are tax deductible in the USA. Membership dues are not.)

Visa

MC

#### Total amount enclosed: \$

Check (payable to SHHH)

Credit Card #	Exp. Date
Name as appears on credit of	card (please print)
Signature	

Mail application to:

Date

SHHH Membership 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200 Bethesda, MD 20814

(301) 657-2248 Voice (301) 657-2249 TTY



William I McConegliev



G Jasper Lowlkes



# YOUR SUPPORT HELPS PROVIDE:

National Office

Responds to inquiries about hearing loss and makes referrals. Represents people with hearing loss in government, professional, academic and research forums.

#### Chapter and Group Network

A nationwide support network of chapters and groups that meets regularly to learn about hearing loss and coping strategies through self help. Chapter and group members help make their communities

and states more accessible for people with hearing loss.

Hearing Loss: The Journal of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People

Award-winning bimenthly magazine about hearing loss with an estimated readership of 200,000.

**National Programs** 

Programs promoting: wareness, education, employment, and con munication access.

# Discounted Publicat ons/Resource Materials

Covering all aspects of hearing loss such as causes, coping strategie, technology, and more.

# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

Consumer informatio 1 and compliance guidelines are available.

#### **Annual Convention**

An annual gathering hat offers educational workshops, opportunities to try new technology, and to meet othe people with hearing loss, and more, in a communication accessible environment.

Hearing Health Care Benefit Plan

Members are offered a discount rate to belong to this plan that offers quality and cost control of hearing case services while it provides discounts on sudiological assessment, hearing aids, and other substantial benefits.

State and Regional Conferences

SHHH state and regional conferences organized by local chapters and groups offer more opportunities to learn about hearing loss and to network with other people with hearing loss in your locale.





### State Associations

State associations are starting to develop strong state SHHH networks to help with state outreach, advocacy, and legislative issues that affect people with hearing loss.

SHHH On-Line with GEnie

SHHH's home on the information superhighway features a bulletin board, a software library, and a real-time conference area plus exclusive areas for SHHH members only. Take advantage of special pricing by using the offer code, SHHH123. To join, call GEnie at 1-800-638-9636 Voice or 1-800-238-9172 TTY or call SHHH National for more details.

For the local chapter or group nearest you. contact SHHH National or below:

Comp.

Teaneck, N.J. 07666

### HEARING LOSS IS INVISIBLE

Do you hear but not understand

Do you have difficulty understanding the radio, television, or telephone?

Do you find yourself asking others to repeat what they said?

Do you tend to avoid people and gatherings?

# YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

More than 28 million Americans have a hearing loss that can hinder daily communication. This invisible condition affects us and everyone around us our family, friends, and co-workers.



#### **EDUCATION**

◆ Our primary purpose is to educate ourselves, our families, friends, co-workers, teachers, hearing health

care providers, industry, government, and others about hearing loss.

- ◆ We provide information on many aspects of hearing loss, from technological and medical advances to coping and parenting strategies.
- ◆ We want to help you become an informed consumer on what options are available to you to help you make the best decisions on how to deal with hearing loss.

### DID YOU KNOW ...

- ◆ People with hearing loss wai an average of seven years before seeking help?
- ◆ 75 percent of people who could benefit from hearing aids are not using them?
- ◆ By age 65, one out of three pcople has a hearing loss?
- ◆ 30 of every 1,000 school-age children have a hearing loss?
- ◆ 60 percent of people with he aring loss are between the ages of 21 at d 65 (working age)?

### WHAT IS SHHH?

Self Help for Hard of Hearing Lople, Inc., a non-profit, educational organization, is dedicated to the well-being of people of all ages and communication styles who do not hear well. SHHH is the largest international consumer organization exits kind.

SHHH has a national office with a knowledgeable staff waiting to hear from you. We have a dedicated international membership, a nationwide support ne work of chapters and groups, and a sister organization in Australia. Our voluntee board of trustees is comprised of SHHH nembers from all over the country.

### **ADVOCACY**

- ◆ SHHH is a leading voice in improving communication access for people with hearing loss. We advocate for communication access in the workplace, hotels, schools, court systems, medical, and entertainment facilities.
- ◆ We encourage and participate in research to improve hearing aids, assistive listening devices, and other technology needs of consumers with hearing loss. We push for research on understanding the causes of hearing loss and for development of new treatments.
- We testify before federal, state, and local legislative bodies on issues concerning people with hearing loss. We help implement federal and state laws which benefit people with hearing loss.

## SELF HELP

- SHHH believes people with hearing loss can help themselves and one another to participate fully and successfully in society. We work to develop options for ourselves and open doors for others.
- We provide support in setting up local support groups.

SHHH and our members are catalysts that make mainstream society more accessible to people who are hard of hearing. We accomplish this through education, advocacy, and self help.



Self-Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc.